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Title : Need to impose a levy on generation of electricity with a view to pass on the benefit of revenue to the power producing States.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Mining of coal and consumption of coal for generation of electricity has adverse effect on environment, especially on account of fly ash generated as also increase of ambient temperature in the region where thermal generation plants are located. At all India level approximately 100 million tonnes of fly ash is produced annually, of which less than 30% is utilized in brick making, cement, road surfacing, soil remineralisation etc.. In Orissa, utilization of fly ash in the 3000 MW NTPC Super Thermal Plant at Kaniha, Talcher is negligible. As per Central Pollution Control Board, I MW capacity thermal power plant requires 1 to 10 acres of land, depending upon the depth of the ash pond, for disposal of ash for 30 years of the plant's life. The loss of forest cover and the pollution of water bodies in the coal bearing areas also compounds the problem.

Under present dispensation the host State where power is produced does not receive any revenue on the power exported. The problem is acute in the case of Orissa, as it is net exporter of power. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to impose a certain levy on generation of Electricity and pass on the benefit to the power producing States. Or, it may be considered to authorize the State Governments to collect and retain it.